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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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For Media Release

### **New Judicial Salary Commission Appointed for 2002-2006 Term**

The Judicial Salary Commission for the 2002-2006 term held its first meeting recently at Ali'iolani Hale (Supreme Court Building). Newly appointed members are Joseph M. Bazemore and Marshall W. Hung. Lorraine H. Akiba, Stanley W. Hong, and Dr. Ruth M. Ono have been reappointed to serve an additional four years.

The term of office for commission members will expire on July 27, 2006. Hong, who served as chair of the commission during the 1998-2002 term, was re-elected chair. Ono will serve as vice chair.

"The commission is well-positioned to face new challenges as we seek fair and reasonable compensation for Hawai'i's judges. This goal has been a key objective for previous commissions as well as the current commission," said Hong. "The new commission is looking forward to meeting and working with members of the 2003 legislature and the governor as we continue to seek reasonable, periodic salary increases for our jurists. Our efforts are aimed at attracting and retaining the best for the Judiciary," he said.

Hong, an attorney, is the president of Waste Management of Hawai'i, Inc. and a trustee of the King William Lunalilo Trust Estate. Ono is vice president emeritus of the Queen's Health Care Systems; Akiba is an attorney with the law firm of McCorriston Miller Mukai Mackinnon and chair of the Hawai'i Democratic Party; Bazemore is the business representative of Local Union 1944, Drywall Tapers & Finishers and serves as chairman of the Drywall Contractors Association Trust Funds; and Hung is president of Marshall Realty Inc.

By law, of the five-member commission, the governor appoints two, and the senate president, speaker of the house, and the chief justice each appoints one. The commission must submit a report and recommendation to the legislature by October 15 of each year preceding a fiscal biennium regarding the salaries of justices and judges of all state courts. The next report is due Oct. 15, 2002.

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